

## A HISTORIC JUNCTION

(Mr. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, this Nation is at a historic junction. Either we can follow the same course we have followed for the last 40 years, a course of tax and spend, a course of rocketing deficits, or we can steer this flagship America into a new direction, a direction of fiscal responsibility, lower taxation and limited Government.

But in order to avoid the rocks of higher taxation and the shoals of bigger deficits, we must have a balanced budget amendment with a provision that requires a three-fifths super majority of both the House and the Senate to raise taxes. A balanced budget amendment without a tax limitation is like a ship without a rudder, at the mercy of the prevailing winds which may blow.

The three-fifths provision is the rudder that will steer America back in the right direction. For the sake of our children, for the sake of our grandchildren and this Nation, let us set a new course. Let us pass the balanced budget amendment with the three-fifths tax provision. Let us make the magic number 290 instead of 214 to raise taxes in the future.

## THE WORKPLACE SAFETY AMENDMENT

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, throughout yesterday's debate, the sponsors of the unfunded mandates legislation told us one thing but in the bill they said something different. They told us that the bill continues to protect workplace safety, yet they do not say that in the bill. They told us in the bill it continues to protect the environment, the air we breathe and the water we drink. Yet they do not say that in the bill. Protection against child labor, insurance against workplace firetraps, and security from hazardous equipment on the job are very serious matters. Yet does it mean what it says? Why do they not say it.

We need to say that in the bill. Clean air and safe drinking water are precious to the lives of American citizens. The sponsors of the bill have a duty to explain in clear, unambiguous, and concise language where in the bill do they provide for the vital protection of the health and welfare of American workers.

I intend to sponsor an amendment which in express language will ensure minimum Federal workplace safety standards, will not be abandoned and will be precise.

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment. If they mean what they say, say it in the bill and support the amendment.

## THE ONCE MIGHTY PARTY

(Mr. CALVERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, the once mighty party that helped found the Nation now embarrasses itself on station after station. This party of Jefferson, born of ideas, lofty and grand, have been reduced to whining about a book and a man. This party that helped through the Great Depression now fumes and fusses in session after session.

This great party that brought us victory in wars today fights about a book which is not in the stores.

While the American people look to us for inspiration, the party whines on and on about an imaginary publication. The party that for a long this Congress led now acts as if it has gone completely brain dead.

It is sad, Mr. Speaker, but it is easy to see why this once great party is now in the minority.

## WITHDRAWAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 38

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be withdrawn as a cosponsor of H.R. 38.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

## IN OPPOSITION TO H.R. 5, A BILL TO OPPOSE UNFUNDED MANDATES

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose H.R. 5, the legislation regarding unfunded mandates. I believe this is necessary for us to defeat this legislation because it gives benefits to all Americans.

These Federal mandates give benefits to all Americans. Included in these Federal mandates is the Clean Water Act, which is important for us as far as the food we eat, the water we drink, and to millions of Americans whose livelihood depends on working on the waterways in America.

In addition, the Safe Water Act protects the water we drink from the tap. And in addition to that, the Clean Air Act protects the health of every American who lives in the cities. But as we know, pollution knows no geographic bounds. So it is very important for us to have national minimum standards. This is very important for every American, at least every American who eats food, drinks water, and breathes air. I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 5.

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## SUPPORT TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUNDS

(Mr. SHUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, David Broder of the Washington Post recently wrote a column in which he quoted a lifelong Democrat shipyard worker who switched to be a Republican. Here is what that shipyard worker said.

He said, "Except for roads, everything government has done in the last 20 years has degraded our society," except for roads.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, building infrastructure for America's future is something that Government can do. It is something that Government should do. As we tighten our Government belt, we should be very careful not to weaken our rightful commitment to building assets for the future.

Our population continues to grow. People travel more. Highway travel has more than tripled since the interstate was proposed. Air travel has more than doubled in just the last 12 years. Spending highway aviation and trust fund dollars to build America is absolutely essential to the future of our country. Support the transportation trust funds.

## MEMO PUTS SPEAKER'S INTERESTS ABOVE NATIONAL INTERESTS

(Mr. SCHUMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, in a memo to the White House last night, a senior Republican linked our right to raise important and valid questions about the Speaker's book deal to passage of vital legislation. The memo actually seems to put the personal interests of the Speaker above our national interest. It shows that Republicans would rather do the Speaker's bidding than the people's business.

We seem to have crossed a very troubling line. The Speaker's book deal is no longer merely a personal ethical issue. It is now threatening the vital interests of this country. What is more important for America, the North American economy, or a \$4.5 million check for the Speaker?

After the election, many pundits told President Clinton he should take a page out of Harry Truman's book and call us the do-nothing Congress. At the rate it is going, he is going to call this Republican group the Keystone Cops Congress.

## KEEP THE SUPER MAJORITY PROVISION IN THE BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, it has been interesting to hear the arguments by the keepers of the old order with